GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:336
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2006
SPREAD OF DISEASES AMONG CHILDREN
Patil Shri Balasaheb Vikhe

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of Heart Disease, Cancer and Kidney have increased amongst the children;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government to prevent these diseases amongst children?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) & (b) No Systematic survey has been conducted to estimate the incidence of congenital heart disease (CHD) at birth in India. As per the experts amount 1,30,000 to 2,70,000 children are estimated to be born with CHD each year in India. Other forms of heart disease that affect children aged 5-15 years include rheumatic heart disease. This problem appear to be on a decline in those parts of the country that have demonstrated improvements in the human development index (HDI).

Regarding Cancer, data from the National Cancer Registry Programme shows a statistically significant increase in childhood cancers in both male and female children. There is no national or state-wise systematic data available on time trends or an increase of kidney diseases in children.

(c) Under the National Cancer Control Programme emphasis is on prevention and early detention of cancer amongst all age groups including children. The Government proposes to initiate and implement a National Programme for the prevention and control of Cardio Vascular Diseases (CVD) and Diabetes to reduce the adverse health impact of heart diseases, stroke and diabetes.